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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of:

Kaori Yasufuku et al.

Serial No.: 09/690,433

Art Unit: 2833

Filed: October 18, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

For: CONNECTOR

Atty Docket: 2004/00003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For insuring compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the undersigned hereby submits the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified patent application.

The listing of these materials is not to be construed as an admission that such is actually prior art with respect to the invention of the present application and is not to be construed that such is material with respect to the present invention.

☐ U.S. patent applications which the applicant considers to be related to the above-identified application are as follows:

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language references is attached:

☐ The relevance of the references is indicated on the enclosed copy of the ____ Search Report for the priority application.

These documents are being submitted (check only one of the next four boxes):

- ☐ within three months of the filing of the above U.S. national application or of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage in an International Patent Application (no fee is due);
- ☒ before receiving a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified patent application (no fee is due);
- ☐ following receipt of a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (if this box is checked, one of the last three boxes also must be checked);

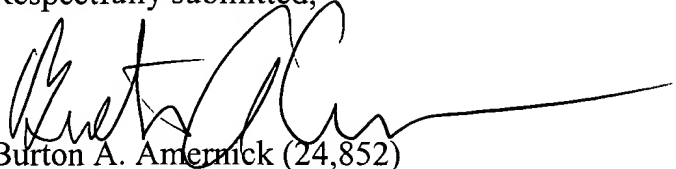
OR

- ☐ following receipt of a Notice of Allowance or a Final Office Action (if this box is checked, the next box and one of the last three boxes also must be checked).
- ☐ PETITION - The undersigned hereby requests consideration of this information after mailing the Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance by filing this Petition under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)(2)(ii) and attaching our check in the amount of \$130.00 as the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1).
- ☐ Our Check in the amount of \$240.00 is attached in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).
- ☐ The undersigned certifies that each item of this information is being submitted within three months of the date it was cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart application.
- ☐ The undersigned certifies that, after making reasonable inquiry, he/she has no knowledge that any item of this information was cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or was known more than three months prior to this submission.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficiency in the above fee(s) or to charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 or 1.17 or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 22-0185. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached for the Finance Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Burton A. Amernick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Burton A. Amernick (24,852)
Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP
1990 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425
Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date: 3-3-01